

# NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

OCTOBER 1946

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## Dear Local Presidents:



Mrs. L. W. Hughes

Many persons have asked whether or not the National Congress of Parents and Teachers is going to have an administration theme for the next three years. This question has been given serious consideration. We have decided that instead of selecting a three-year theme it will be better for us to concentrate on several areas of our work and then unite in a determined drive to reach the goals we have set ourselves.

### Administration Emphasis

Therefore during the next three years the National Congress will place major emphasis on (1) school education and (2) health. In addition, it will highlight (3) world understanding and (4) parent education and home and family life.

As we intensify our activities in these areas we need not and should not neglect our over-all program. While stressing projects in the four major fields, we can move forward toward all our regular objectives.

Briefly, here are the reasons why we have selected these subjects for special emphasis:

**1. School education.** Americans are today examining the weaknesses that exist in our educational system. The need for such examination was made very clear by appalling statistics released during World War II. Many thousands of young men who joined the armed forces were "functionally illiterate"; that is, they had never learned to read or write any better than the average fourth-grade pupil, and hundreds could not read at all.

These men were not illiterate because they could not learn. They had simply never had the chance. Either there were no schools for them to attend, or their parents failed to send them to school throughout the required period. It is high time we stopped being shocked by the discovery of these shortcomings. It is time we did something to overcome them, and one of the first things we must do is to secure Federal aid.

**2. Health.** World War II also showed us that the general health of thousands of our young men and women was far from being up to par. Too little has been done to bring the benefits of good health and good medical care to all citizens. Yet without good health it is impossible, for an individual or a country, to progress. We have made great strides in scientific achievements in the field of health. Our problem now is to find ways of applying what we have learned to our everyday lives. We must also impress upon parent-teacher members the need to make full use of all the health facilities available. Thus we may begin at once to raise the nation's health standards.

**3. World understanding.** Statesmen alone cannot guarantee a peaceful world. There must be an upsurge of public opinion—yes, of parent-teacher opinion—which will demand that war be outlawed. The parents of America must act. They must insist that ways be found to establish world understanding and world good will. Furthermore, those who represent us in Congress must know how we, for whom they speak, feel and think about this imperative matter.

The very thought of an atomic war should be sufficient to make all parents, the world over, raise their voices in protest when nations begin to act beligerently and become distrustful of one another.

**4. Parent education and home and family life.** To achieve our goals in school education, health, and world understanding we need more and better

parent education programs. Parents, and teachers too, must know why we are working for these goals.

Moreover, many of the major problems we face today have their roots in the home. We must devote our efforts to eliminating the basic weaknesses that cause divorce, relaxed moral standards, juvenile delinquency, and other threats to children and their families. We must educate parents to prevent these upheavals rather than to wait and try to cure them after the harm is done.

Therefore as president of the National Congress, I call upon all our leaders to set in motion the necessary machinery to support and carry forward this four-point program.

### American Education Week

"Education for the Atomic Age" is the challenging theme of the twenty-sixth observance of American Education Week, which this year is the week of November 10. First celebrated in 1921, its purpose is to remind the public every year of the vital role played by education in our democracy.

Every parent-teacher member should plan to visit his child's school during American Education Week.

### Rural School Charter Day

On October 4, 1946, we shall have a chance to observe another significant date in the world of education. Two years ago, October 4-6, 1944, the first White House Conference on Rural Education met at the invitation of President and Mrs. Roosevelt to discuss rural schools and their special problems.

It is to remind citizens everywhere, in both city and country, of their duty to work for better schools for rural children, as stressed by that conference, that Rural School Charter Day has been inaugurated.

This is a time for every rural P.T.A. to pause and consider what should be its share in solving the problem of rural education.

Sincerely yours,

*Mabel H. Hughes*

President  
National Congress of Parents and Teachers



# You ARE NEEDED in the P.T.A.



**“WHY?”** you ask. “Why am I needed in the P.T.A.? What can I do that millions of other members aren’t doing or haven’t done?”

## HERE’S THE ANSWER.

The P.T.A. needs YOU because it needs

<i>Your ideas</i>	<i>Your strength</i>
<i>Your interest</i>	<i>Your support</i>
<i>Your zest</i>	<i>Your cooperation</i>

The P.T.A. needs YOU whether you’re

*A mother*  
*A father*  
*A teacher*  
*Or any civic-minded adult*

YOU are needed in the P.T.A. because:

- Children’s needs won’t wait. It doesn’t take long to grow up. And growing up under undesirable conditions means tragedy to the child and loss to the nation. By joining forces with others who care about what happens to the rising generation of Americans YOU can help to overcome these unwholesome influences.
- There’s a peace to be won. This peace is now within the reach of mankind. But only as YOU unite your efforts with those of every other citizen can young minds and

hearts be taught the ideas, ideals, and attitudes that will build a true and lasting peace.

- Many heads are better than one. The P.T.A. is a democratic organization, charged throughout with democratic principles. As a member YOU will have a chance to pool your thinking with that of others who are giving useful service in a notable cause. In the P.T.A. you, as an individual, *count* and are counted upon.
- By joining hands with others who are working for better homes, better schools, and better communities, you can hasten the coming of a better future for all children.

## YOU are needed in the P.T.A. to

- Help raise the standards of mental, emotional, and spiritual health.
- Help build a nation of homes where parents and children get along well together and enjoy a satisfying family life.
- Put into practice the findings of those who have made a lifework of understanding young people and their development.
- Open the doors of educational opportunity to all children—and to all adults as well—who seek knowledge that will make them informed citizens of a country where the rights of the individual will be forever safeguarded.
- Take an active part in doing something practical and effective about juvenile delinquency, the most urgent child welfare problem facing America today.
- Add your voice to millions of other voices that demand and keep in force laws that protect children and youth.

## YOU are needed in the P.T.A. because:

- The problems of childhood are acute in this period of change from war to peace. Serving shoulder to shoulder with millions of other members YOU can help to make a strong, relentless, and successful attack on all factors that tend to destroy children’s happiness and security.
- Your influence, added to the influence of millions of other forward-looking parents and teachers, will

be a powerful force in determining the kind of education your community will provide for its children.

- Your drive, together with the drive of four million other alert Americans, can generate the power that is the explicit guarantee of the better world to come.
- This great and growing national organization must continue to represent, even more broadly, the highest hopes and best efforts of the American people to preserve for their children the American way of life.
- It’s easier to teach by example than by precept. Therefore it is a good idea—a very good idea—to let the boys and girls in your neighborhood see you working actively in the P.T.A. It stamps you in their estimation as a responsible, interesting adult who is very much a part of the world in which they live.

**Yes, the P.T.A. does need YOU,** for nothing in the world is more worth while or more essential than the welfare of children and youth. This, then, is an invitation to YOU from the National Congress of Parents and Teachers to enroll in one of its 27,000 local P.T.A.’s and to participate fully in its nationwide program of work.

*You Are Needed in the P.T.A.* is also published in leaflet form, at the cost price of 35 cents a hundred or \$3.00 a thousand, including postage. Copies may be ordered from the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 600 South Michigan Boulevard, Chicago 5, Illinois.

Associations that prefer to reproduce this material locally may do so. After it is multigraphed, mimeographed, or reprinted by a local printer, it may be distributed by the association during the fall membership enrollment or at other times during the year.

## AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

### Daily Topics for Discussion

*Sunday, November 10:*

Practicing Brotherhood

*Monday, November 11:*

Building World Security

*Tuesday, November 12:*

Facing New Tasks

*Wednesday, November 13:*

Developing Better Communities

*Thursday, November 14:*

Strengthening Home Life

*Friday, November 15:*

Investing in Education

*Saturday, November 16:*

Promoting Health and Safety



# 500,000 Teachers! IN P.T.A. MEMBERSHIP!



THE recent advances and changes in modern education along with the necessary adjustments that naturally follow make it essential that there be a close cooperation and deepened understanding between the home and the school. Knowledge and technique come with professional training, but any constructive application of them rests with the varying attitudes of children and their parents.

• The war has served to strengthen the relationship between the National Congress and professional organizations in education, for many difficult situations

have been faced together during the last few years. The joint committee of the National Education Association and the National Congress exemplifies this coordinated effort toward common goals. It has explored many areas of educational endeavor, and, similarly, the state congresses have cooperated with state education associations in building better professional standards and solving teacher problems together. The same sort of cooperation has been carried on within county and city units of education.

• Because present educational standards are quite complex, the combined efforts of professional groups and lay people are required. And today, as always, the National Congress has as its fourth Object: "To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the training of the child." In this way the National Congress emphasizes the necessity of teacher participation, and this year it has set for itself a national goal of 500,000 teachers enrolled in membership. Teachers are community leaders; they have the advan-

tage of higher education; and they live in the hearts and minds of children. For these and many other reasons they are a great asset to any parent-teacher unit. It is urged that each association make a special effort to bring every teacher into membership this year and keep a separate record so that statistics on teacher memberships can be reported accurately.

• The P.T.A. has much to offer both to teachers and to school administrators.

1. *It affords opportunities for friendship and participation in community affairs.*
2. *It interprets the curriculum of the school to the community.*
3. *It actively promotes school projects and supports good school legislation.*
4. *It creates confidence and respect between the home and the school.*

The National Congress today calls on every teacher to join the ranks of the largest child welfare organization in the world.

*Clara M. Beecham*

National Chairman  
Committee on Membership



Here is a photograph of those who attended the three-week course on parent-teacher leadership presented in August by Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, in cooperation with the National Congress. Fifth from the left in the first row is James Monroe Hughes, dean of the School of Education, and to his right are Mildred Wharton, extension specialist of the Congress; Mrs. William A. Hastings, past national president; Mrs. Eva H. Grant, editor of the *National Parent-Teacher*, and coordinator of the course; Mrs. L. W. Hughes, president; and Charles W. Phillips, second vice-president.



## • USE P.T.A. FUNDS • FOR P.T.A. WORK!

**D**URING the autumn and winter of every year, many organizations and community groups conduct campaigns for donations to a variety of worthy causes. Our local associations are often asked to make contributions to these campaigns. What should be our stand in such instances?

*Parent-teacher funds should always be used for parent-teacher work.* We have no right to raise money for our own work and then allow it to be diverted to other organizations. This is a matter of ethics and should be scrupulously observed. Every P.T.A. has its own program of child welfare, home-school cooperation, and community betterment. These programs are so important and so comprehensive there is always a place for parent-teacher funds.

*We do not ask other organizations to make donations to help us with our programs.* It is therefore essential that we retain our own funds to defray our own expenses.

*We are not a money-making or money-raising organization.* Our dues permit persons in all financial circumstances to join the P.T.A. and benefit thereby. Usually one money-raising event a year is sufficient to provide the funds we need. (For further details see the *Parent-Teacher Manual*, 1946-47, pages 76 and 77, 94, 95, and 96.)

Thousands of our members are interested in other worthy causes and do contribute generously to them, but they do so *as individuals*, which is quite a different matter.

*Use P.T.A. funds for P.T.A. work!*

MRS. L. W. HUGHES, PRESIDENT

### UNITED NATIONS WEEK

October 20-26 is the new date set for *United Nations Week*. The National Congress of Parents and Teachers is one of the groups cooperating in this observance.

October 6-11 is Fire Prevention Week

November 10-16 is American Education Week

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## HIGHLIGHTS AHEAD...

In the October issue of  
**NATIONAL PARENT-TEACHER:  
THE P.T.A. MAGAZINE**

### **Anchors at Home**

by James Lee Ellenwood

• This is a delightful bit of fatherly comment on our restless youth—our adolescent nomads who blithely regard their homes as mere hotels in which to eat and sleep! Are your youngsters at the gadabout stage? Do you really want them to stay at home as much as you say you do? If so, do you really make them feel at ease? Or are you a better housekeeper than homemaker? These are some of the queries put by Mr. Ellenwood in an article full of sprightly humor stemming, nevertheless, from a deep understanding of our growing boys and girls.

### **Temper and Tantrum**

by Rhoda W. Bacmeister

• Scarcely any mother, father, or teacher has escaped the bewilderment of standing helplessly by while Mary or Johnny indulges in a howling display of rage. Anyone presiding over this stage of a youngster's development will want to read what this specialist has to say on the subject. What is a tantrum, anyway? Haven't you often wondered? What are the usual causes? And, most important of all, what is the best cure? If you want to learn more, don't miss this helpful article by an author who has delved carefully into the why and wherefore of temper and tantrum.

### **Determining the Destiny of Our Children**

by Lyle W. Ashby

• Written by one who saw the atom bomb tested in Bikini, this article calls upon the fathers and mothers of America to give serious thought to the future of their children—and

of the world. Deeply troubled by the implications of possible wars in the future, Dr. Ashby regards the atom bomb tests as part of a vast disturbing pattern of military research. "Where are the high hopes of Dumbarton Oaks and San Francisco and the United Nations?" he asks, and we, his readers, are among those with whom the all-important answer rests—for good or evil, for peace or chaos.

### **Does Your Child Do What the Others Do?**

by Arnold Gesell, M.D.

• This article by a famous child psychologist entreats parents not to insist that each child do what the others do. Do you think your child is "underweight"? Aren't your twins who look alike actually very different in a number of ways? What norms of development are really valuable? These are questions ably discussed by an author eminently fitted to supply the answers.

### **Counseling with Our Adolescents**

by Sara M. Holbrook

• If you are a parent or teacher perplexed by the unpredictable whims of youth you'll be grateful for this article by our own national chairman of Mental Hygiene. Why has Jeanie grown so flip and impertinent of late? What makes Don so arrogant and Martha painfully shy? And how can you, their counselors, help them through the transition years of adolescence? Dr. Holbrook, with wisdom born of experience, explains the value of guidance in the school and stresses the importance of understanding and patience in the home.

### **How To Think About Yourself**

by Bonaro W. Overstreet

• Are you a "spiritual orphan"? How do many of us cut ourselves off from the great human tradition that has been built up throughout the ages? What are we doing to claim this tradition as our own and pass it on to our children? Or are we letting the schools do the whole job of transmitting culture to our young people?

These are some of the thoughtful questions asked by Mrs. Overstreet as she shows us how we can be better heirs and wiser stewards of our great heritage from the past.

### **SAFETY FILM AVAILABLE**

Another helpful safety film has been released by the American Legion in cooperation with Pennsylvania State College and the Automotive Safety Foundation.

If your association is interested in obtaining the film for local showings, any of the following sources may have it:

1. State departments of the American Legion in all the states and the District of Columbia.
2. State highway departments in thirty-two states.
3. State university extension libraries in eight states.

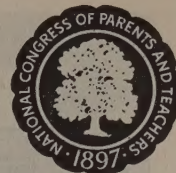
If the film is not available from any of the above, write to:

1. National Safety Council, 20 North Wacker Drive, Chicago 6.
2. Northwestern University Traffic Institute, 1704 Judson Avenue, Evanston, Illinois.

In most cases the film is loaned free, although a few extension libraries charge fifty cents for its use. It may be purchased for thirty dollars from I. C. Boerlin, supervisor of audio-visual aids, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pennsylvania.



# WHAT OUR CONGRESS PARENT-TEACHER GROUPS *Are Doing*



## Series of Forums on School Education

This spring the committee on school education in the Indianapolis Council of P.T.A.'s sponsored a highly successful series of forums on school education, which were attended by several hundred parents and teachers. Under the chairmanship of Mrs. H. L. Miles, the committee obtained competent forum leaders for four sessions at which parent-teacher leaders and school instructors talked over the many problems in which both groups were deeply interested.

Among the many pertinent subjects discussed were the local report card system; the cumulative record system as used in Indianapolis; the correlation of school subjects with students' out-of-school experiences; the problems of citizenship training; problems of attendance; housing needs; and the health program in Indiana.

Here were parents and teachers really at work on something tangible, and all who attended felt they had gained a new understanding of the school and its relationship to the parents of the community.

## Intercultural Education for Peace

The Hayward Union High School P.T.A. in Hayward, California, is carrying on a worth-while community program of intercultural education. Stella Larson, president of the unit, writes about P.T.A. efforts to further an international point of view among students, teachers, and parents in Hayward.

Last year twenty-five community leaders met to discuss ways of stimulating interest in the interracial problem. Later an outstanding authority on interracial relations was invited to speak on the importance of deeper understanding for a true world peace. Both churchmen and laymen in Hayward planned to set up an organization to continue studying all aspects of intercultural education in fostering peace.

"The student body of the high school has shown enthusiasm in our program," Miss Larson's letter concludes, "and various members of the teachers' association in our high school feel it is a subject their organization should also work on."

## Students Help To Evaluate Movies

In Westport, Connecticut, young people read the local "movie previews" with more than average interest because some of their classmates have had a share in preparing them. The Westport P.T.A. Council has encouraged this project and finds that the evaluations, compiled with some adult guidance, are thoughtful and of real aid to both parents and adolescents. Based on established ratings, these previews are presented in two of the papers and are on file in the library.

## "There Is Drama in Our Magazine"

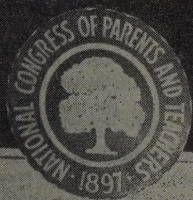
Have you ever thought of dramatizing some of the articles in the *National Parent-Teacher*? That is what the Detroit Council of P.T.A.'s did at one of its meetings recently, and the results were both enjoyable and informative. The program, "There Is Drama in Our Magazine," consisted of four short skits presented by the members of four local units in the council.

Requiring only simple settings, few properties, and no stage at all, the playlets lasted slightly less than an hour. And as a supplement to the program, there was also a display of Congress publications arranged by the chairman of that council committee.

## A Reminder of Our Objects

The East Salisbury School Parent-Teacher Association, Salisbury, Maryland, displays a large reproduction of the Objects of the National Congress in the P.T.A. meeting room. Done in red, white, and blue and flanked by the American flag and the flag of Maryland, the huge poster serves more than a decorative purpose. It is a constant reminder to all members of the association to sponsor only those projects that promote the basic goals of parent-teacher work.

Shown here are four of the leaders of the association. From left to right they are J. Roy Howie, president; H. J. W. Rayner, vice-president; Mrs. Rosena Jones, principal of East Salisbury School; and Lloyd C. Hopkins, treasurer. Mrs. Margaret Mortimer, secretary, is another officer not shown here.



## Objects

*To promote the welfare of children and youth in home, school, church and community*

*To raise the standards of home life*

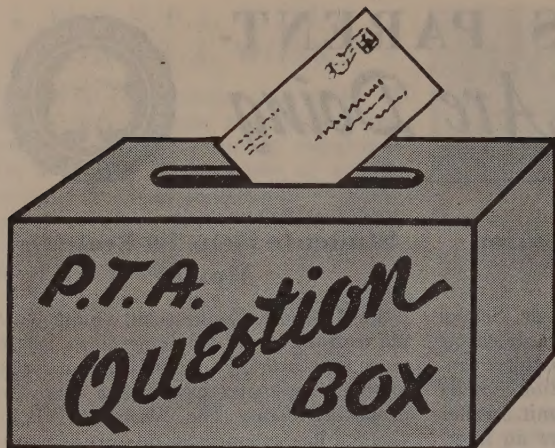
*To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth*

*To bring into closer relation the home and school that parents and the teachers may cooperate intelligently in the training of the child*

*To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for every child the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education*







**Q. We need more membership cards. How can we obtain them?**

A. Write to your state congress office and tell them exactly how many more you need. Membership cards are never distributed from the National Office. At stated intervals quantities of the cards are shipped in bulk to state offices for distribution from there.

**Q. I saw a very interesting little book called *The Preschool Age—A Period of Promise*. It is so good I don't see why you can't provide one free for each member of our preschool section.**

A. The National Congress of Parents and Teachers receives only *five cents per member* as part of the all-inclusive (national, state, and local) membership dues. It costs about five cents a copy to print the booklet you like so much, and we get that price only because we order a large quantity. Therefore if you stop to think carefully, you will readily understand why the National Congress cannot supply such publications free to each member. The five-cent dues have to pay for running the National Office (including rent, insurance, light, cleaning, postage, express, freight, and the salaries of a paid staff); the printing and distributing of more than 2,000,000 copies of free publications yearly; the distribution of more than 5,000,000 membership cards; field service; the national convention; the expenses of national officers and Board members who attend state and national meetings; and many other expenses. It is only by operating on a highly efficient and rigidly supervised basis that the National Congress is able to do as much as it does on its five-cent dues. Nor could it begin to

do it, even with these dues, were it not for the many, many hours of volunteer service contributed by its leaders!

**Q. When was the Summer Round-Up of the Children started?**

A. The National Congress inaugurated this health project in 1925 under the leadership of Mrs. A. H. Reeve, a past president of the organization. It has been carried on with-

out interruption ever since her administration.

**Q. Our school superintendent received a letter from *Parents' Magazine* asking for the names of our local presidents. He turned the letter over to me. Is giving such a list of names contrary to our policy?**

A. Yes, it is. Names and addresses of officers or members should not be released for any commercial purpose. The National Congress has no connection at all with *Parents' Magazine*.

**Q. Could you give us some help in planning our program? We are not affiliated with the state branch of the National Congress because we don't want to spend our money for dues, but we'll appreciate any assistance you can give us. We can pay for any publications that will help.**

A. It is a pity that you do not belong to the state congress of parents and teachers, for your state branch is doing a particularly fine piece of work in helping local parent-teacher associations to set up helpful and constructive programs. We cannot give you assistance because the dues received from member associations must be used to serve them. It would be unfair to use their money to help P.T.A.'s that do not belong to the National Congress. We urge you to investigate the many advantages of joining our organization and suggest that you write immediately to the state congress of parents and teachers for further information.

*The payment of dues isn't the primary factor to be considered. When we join any organization we are willing to pay dues because we want to lend support to its undertakings, because we believe in its aims and ob-*

*jects, because we want to be associated with a group that counts for something in the world. Of course, it does cost money to belong to any worthwhile organization, but the all-inclusive parent-teacher dues are comparatively low. What other group in the country offers membership for twenty-five, thirty-five, or fifty cents? (And remember that most of this sum is retained locally.)*

The P.T.A. is now a respected and established organization in the American community, but it took years of pioneer effort, wise guidance, and untiring zeal on the part of state and national leaders to give it deserved prestige. Without the unifying and inspiring direction of the National Congress the letters P.T.A. would soon mean less and less in the affairs of the nation. Your association will not be able to make its *maximum contribution* to the welfare of America's children until it joins the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

**Q. How can I get an extra copy of the *National Congress Bulletin* each month? My membership chairman wants it.**

A. By sending twenty cents to the National Office with the name and address of your membership chairman.

**Q. Why can't we have a "Who's Who in the Parent-Teacher Organization," just as we have a "Who's Who in Education"?**

A. We really have 3,910,106 names in "Who's Who in the P.T.A.!" Every local member is eligible for inclusion in such a volume, for each member is making the most valuable kind of contribution to the nation—helping to rear a generation of healthy, educated, well-adjusted, spiritually wholesome children. If there is any greater service an American can render to the present and future welfare of his country we'd like to know what it could possibly be!

### ARE YOU LISTENING TO THE BAXTERS EVERY WEEK?

Are you one of the 3,000,000 persons who listen each Saturday to our national P.T.A. radio program? If not, this is a cordial invitation to you to tune in next Saturday. The program will come to you over your NBC station at 1:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Refer to your local newspaper for local broadcast time.



## YOURS TO USE

**PICTURED** opposite is a collection of publications that make it easy for local associations to carry on their parent-teacher work. The majority of these were sent free to state offices for redistribution to P.T.A.'s, namely:

*The Rural P.T.A.*  
*Looking Toward Tomorrow's Education*  
*Program Planning*  
*Parent-Teacher Manual*  
*Councils*  
*The High School Parent-Teacher Association*  
*The Preschool Age—A Period of Promise*  
*Founders Day*  
*Guiding Principles*  
*A Discussion Outline Based on "A Safety Manual"*

Only two of the publications shown are on a pay basis, namely:

*Community Life in a Democracy* (\$1)  
*National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine* (\$1)

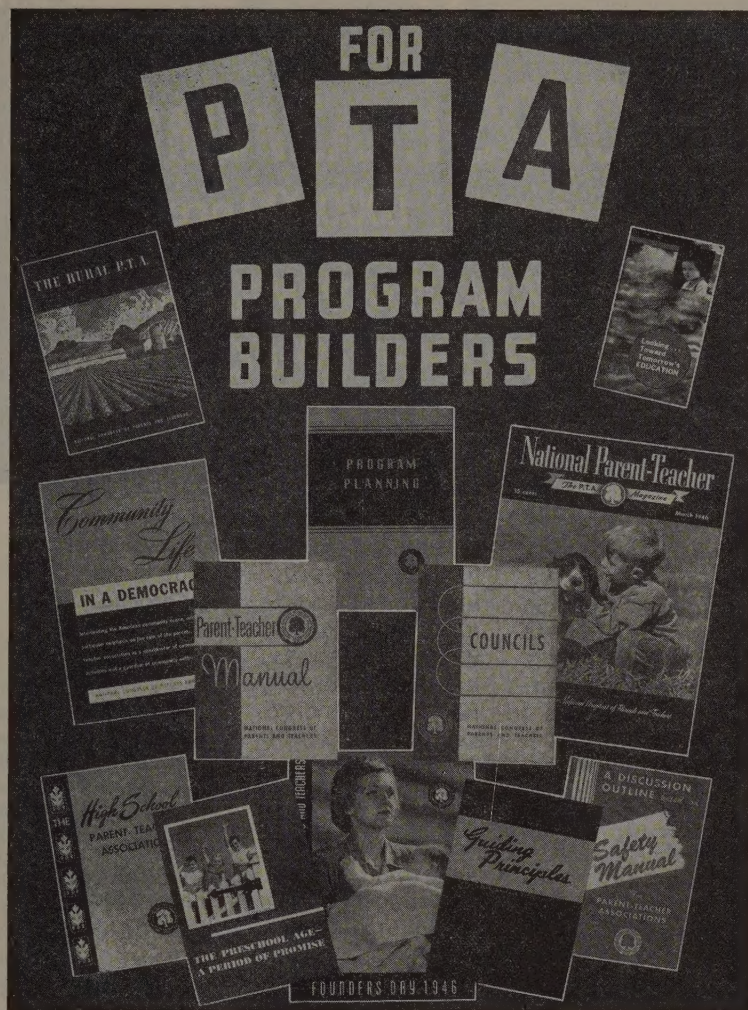
The National Congress of Parents and Teachers makes sure that its local units do not have to search elsewhere for sound, interesting, timely, and practical printed helps. And it also sees that most of these helps are obtainable free on the basis of at least one for each P.T.A. When prices have to be charged, they are kept as low as possible. Parent-teacher publications are not something set apart—something urged upon P.T.A.'s by a "strange" organization.

The leaders who direct the publishing of parent-teacher publications are your national leaders. They were elected by you to represent your interests and to provide the helps you need locally to make parent-teacher work a success. Through the influence and prestige of the National Congress, they are able to persuade the finest authors and specialists in the country to provide you with authoritative material. The money used to prepare and distribute the publications is *your* money, so the more you use your Congress publications (both free and paid) the greater will be your return on your original investment.

There are many publications on the market, and those who are promoting them see in the P.T.A. a lush field for personal profit. Be wary of anyone who tries to substitute other publications for your own excellent parent-teacher printed helps.

Turn first to your P.T.A. publications. Look for supplementary material *only* after you have exhausted your supply of free and nominally priced P.T.A. PROGRAM HELPS.

Don't forget to tune in on the Baxters next Saturday! And if you can find the time, won't you drop us a card and tell us how you like the program?



## A SUGGESTION TO LOCAL PRESIDENTS . . .

When you finish reading the *National Congress Bulletin* will you please glance through it again to see how many items are of special interest to some other member of your executive committee or to several of your chairmen? Arrange with the publications chairman to have the *Bulletin* circulated among them each month. A list of those who are to get it might be attached to the *Bulletin*, and each person in turn should then make it his responsibility to give that particular issue to the next person on the list. If distances are great, the *Bulletin* can be mailed from one person to the other. Children, too, can help to pass it on from one leader to the other. If all P.T.A. publications are kept on a bookshelf or in some other specified place, those who would be especially interested

in some item in the *Bulletin* should be notified that there is material in it of use to them.

*Part of the dues of your association go toward publishing the Bulletin, so do try to make your investment count by giving the publication the widest possible circulation every month. The more informed your officers and chairmen are, the better assistants they will be to you. And the more helpers you have, the more successful will be your P.T.A. meetings and your entire administration.*

Talk with your publications chairmen today and work out a monthly circulation plan for the *National Congress Bulletin*!



# 3,910,106 P.T.A. MEMBERS

- of whom over 1,000,000 are men -

*ARE NOW ENLISTED IN VOLUNTEER  
SERVICE TO AMERICA'S CHILDREN  
AND AMERICA'S SCHOOLS .....*

Alabama....96,576	Maine.....10,219	Oregon.....48,068
Arizona....18,264	Maryland...30,200	Pennsylvania 187,008
Arkansas...65,193	Massachusetts 45,721	Rhode Island 17,271
California...531,766	Michigan...126,605	So. Carolina 24,059
Colorado...66,343	Minnesota...87,556	So. Dakota...15,126
Connecticut 40,577	Mississippi...31,121	Tennessee...109,291
Delaware...8,403	Missouri...111,937	Texas.....221,251
D.C.....23,807	Montana....13,117	Utah.....44,678
Florida....104,441	Nebraska...36,374	Vermont....12,584
Georgia....86,301	Nevada.....3,244	Virginia....81,030
Hawaii.....18,207	New Hampshire 4,664	Washington...84,342
Idaho.....16,941	New Jersey...149,934	West Virginia 42,857
Illinois....249,145	New Mexico...8,846	Wisconsin....44,170
Indiana....110,077	New York...146,654	Wyoming....5,030
Iowa.....60,921	No. Carolina 135,046	Unorganized
Kansas....71,923	No. Dakota...17,022	Territory.....562
Kentucky...65,608	Ohio.....279,312	
Louisiana...33,378	Oklahoma...67,336	

*...IN THE 27,000 P.T.A.'s BELONGING  
TO THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF  
PARENTS AND TEACHERS.*

## CONFERENCE ON THE ROLE OF LANGUAGE IN MODERN LIFE

Thoughtful citizens of today are becoming more and more aware of our need for "bridges of words" that will more closely link the peoples of the world and enable them to understand each other better. No single skill merits more careful attention from both home and school than does our greatest medium of communication—the spoken and written word.

For this reason the National Congress and Northwestern University have sponsored for the second consecutive year a conference on the role of language in modern life. The 1946 symposium on communication was held July 25–27 on the Northwestern campus in Evanston, and many of our parent-teacher leaders took part in the thought-provoking discussions of the conference.

Mrs. L. W. Hughes, national president, presided at the dinner meeting held on the first evening at which John T. Frederick, author and member of the journalism faculty at Northwestern, spoke on "Building Bridges with Words." Among those who served as chairmen of various sessions were Mrs. Frank A. Damm, president of the Illinois Congress; Mrs. William De Voe, president of the Michigan Congress; Mrs. L. S. Mumford, president of the Iowa Congress; A. W. Zellmer, president of the Wisconsin Congress; and Mrs. Eva H. Grant, editor of the *National Parent-Teacher*.

Bruce E. Mahan, national chairman of Visual Education, spoke at the conference group on "Visual and Auditory Aids in Education," and two of the advisory editors of our official P.T.A. magazine, Ethel Kavin and Paul Witty, also made important contributions to several of the sessions.

**LET'S MAKE IT 5,000,000 MEMBERS BY APRIL 1947!**

We promised you a picture of *Sandy Baxter* in this issue of the *Bulletin*, but we couldn't get it ready in time. It will appear in the November issue.